

Appl. No. 09/529,575

Amdt. Dated Sept. 8, 2003

. Reply to Office Action of May 6, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Among preferred protease inhibitors for use in the absorbent articles of the invention are compounds that exhibit inhibitory activity that is not necessarily restricted to a single class of proteases. Such compounds include, but are not limited to, hexamidine and its salts; pentamidine and its salts; ~~benzamidine and its salts and derivatives~~, p-aminobenzamidine and its salts and derivatives; and guanidinobenzoic acid and its salts and derivatives such as those disclosed in U.S.

Patent No. 5,376,655 issued to Imaki et al. on December 27, 1994, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference. Other preferred protease inhibitors include polymer derivatives of guanidinobenzoic acid disclosed and made in our co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/041,196, filed March 12, 1998 in the name of T. L. Underiner et al, co-filed with the present application, the disclosure of which co-pending application is hereby incorporated by reference.